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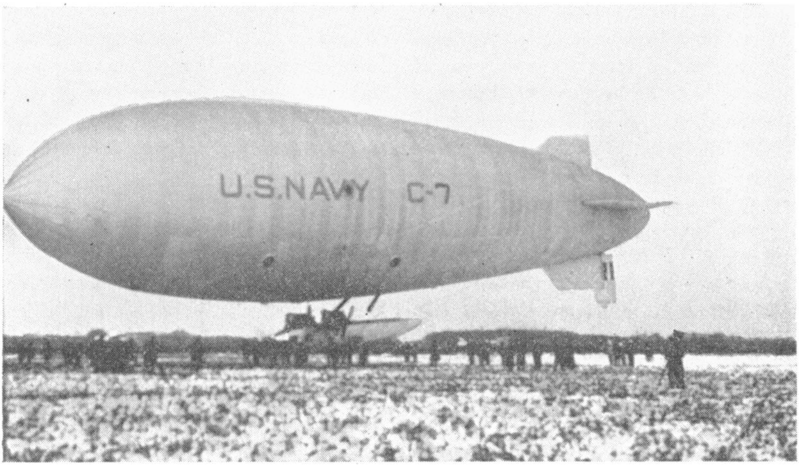

U. S. NAVY BLIMP, INFLATED WITH HELIUM GAS

Certainly there has never before been an engineer and a physician in the cabinet. Dr. Work is president of the American Medical Association. Mr. Hoover at the time of his appointment to the cabinet was president of the Federated American Engineering Societies.

Mr. Hoover has been giving the engineer an opportunity since the present administration began. Elimination of waste in industry, the unemployment conference, building and housing research, and radio regulation have all come about through his engineering. Soon after Dr. Work joined the cabinet, there was the unusual occurrence of a postmaster general presiding over a session of a conference on the public health in the United States.

THE HELIUM AIRSHIP

DURING the same period that radio has been rapidly passing through its adolescence, the lighter-than-air phase of aerial navigation has received a series of discouragments. First came the *ZR-2* disaster in England; then the *Roma* collapsed on our own territory. These were accompanied by two administrative blows to airship building, the decision of the British to abandon airship building, and the prohibition by the Allies of dirigible construction in Germany after a Zeppelin has been built for the United States.

Within a few days after the *Roma* disaster, undaunted by misfortunes and prohibitions, commercial interests announced plans for the beginning of airship transportation in this country. Within a year a corporation hopes to have large rigid ships, built partly in Germany according to the design of Dr. Johann Schutte, in operation between New York and Chicago.

Inflammable hydrogen added to the horror and magnitude of both the *ZR-2* and the *Roma* disasters. In this unhappy way, public attention has been called to helium, the safe balloon gas. This ''rare'' gas, only in recent years first discovered in the sun, promises to lessen greatly the dangers of lighter-than-air transportation. All who have been concerned in the commercial development of helium hope that Congress will provide sufficient funds for the work now in progress and that the Navy blimp *C-7*, which this fall demonstrated helium to be a practical balloon gas, is only the forerunner of future American airships, held aloft by the safe gas that at present only America can produce.